

SMRAS Board Meeting  
May 4, 1978

The meeting was called to order at 8:25 p.m. by Frank Gillette at the home of Betty Wiltse. The following members were present: Anderson, Brown, Coggeshall, Gillette, Jacoby, Jamieson, McGrath, Metzler, Mrstik, Panko, Reid, Smith, Spindelov, Wecker, Wecker, Williams and Wiltse.

The minutes of the April 6, 1978, meeting were read. Carol Coggeshall moved that they be accepted as corrected. Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's report: The balance of SMRAS was \$17,312.98. The Sanctuary Endowment Fund - \$24,258.74. The Laura M. Brinton Memorial Fund - \$756.90.

The Treasurer reported that Chappaqua has reappraised all properties. This will increase the amount of sewer tax we pay on Pinecliff and Cameron-Murtfeldt. Last year's tax was \$240. Carol, Phyllis and Dick will attend a meeting with the assessors.

September 9, 1978, will be New Castle Community Day. Dick Mrstik will be in charge of our participation.

Nancy Evans will be the Brinton Brook Sanctuary Chairman. An estimate for improving the parking at the sanctuary is (A) \$790. for the parking lot and (B) \$418 for the turnaround. Mike Goldberg is keeping an eye on Bastys new plans for building attached townhouses.

Betty Brown moved that we have the (A) part of the proposition to improve the parking lot at Brinton Brook Sanctuary done. Seconded and approved with one nay vote.

Hoch Reid said that he will get a second price from another contractor. He will also write a letter to National telling them of our plans.

We decided that it will not be to our benefit to be a member of Federated Bird Clubs.

In response to the letter sent to National objecting to the keyring sent to members, we have been informed that that was only a small test mailing and they would like us to sell the keyrings to members for \$2.50. It was decided to try selling the ones we have and take orders to see if members are interested.

A letter from friends of Thelma Smith was read requesting that the check enclosed be used for building a home for a wood duck. Kaye will find someone to build it.

Betty Brown suggested that we have a project at the Family Field Festival to build houses for bluebirds and wood ducks.

Stan Wecker moved that we congratulate Thelma Smith on her retirement. Seconded and approved.

Carol Coggeshall reported that Bill Drakert wants to put bluebird houses on the Rockefeller property. She ~~will get~~ permission to have it done under SMRAS sponsorship. *has succeeded in getting*

The State has mapped wetlands with 12.4 acres or more to be protected. Chernik and Gedney will be included as part of Pocantico Valley. It would be an additional protection for other sanctuaries if we can get them included.

Stan Wecker moved that Carol Coggeshall be authorized to write a letter to the County Board of Legislators individually stating our position on solid waste disposal. Seconded and approved.

Kaye reported that the registry drawer at Brinton has been smashed by vandals and that the dam has been cleared.

Jeff Spendelow has been paid for the cost of replacing the nets ripped at Gedney.

Kaye will check to see if the pet store in Ossining is illegally selling box turtles.

Kaye has visited schools, led a moonlight walk for 18 people and a trip to Hook Mountain for 20.

Kaye also suggested that we ask schools to pay mileage next year.

Membership - end of March - 791

We will charge \$3.00 for sending the Bulletin to non-members.

Bill Drakert will be in charge of field trips and Verna Wiseman the Christmas Count.

Our general liability policy is up for renewal. It will have a rider to cover libel suits and also liability covering officers.

There will be a field trip to Brigantine May 19-20 and Drew Panko will lead a June 10 field trip.

The Family Field Festival will be held at Cranberry Lake on June 4. Rain date June 11.

Drew Panko said he needs help with the booth at the Clearwater Sloop Festival at Croton Point on June 16.

It was moved by Stan Wecker that Frank Gillette and Phyllis Jacoby be authorized to sign checks. Seconded and approved.

Lloyd Jamieson moved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m. Seconded and approved.

Elizabeth Wiltse  
Recording Secretary